Alberta
HUMAN RESOURCES AND EMPLOYMENT

the people & workplace department

ALBERTA PROFILE:

ABORIGINAL PEOPLE

IN THE

LABOUR FORCE

(Census 2001 and Labour Force Survey 2004)

Data Development and Evaluation

Revised: June 2005

Highlights

Aboriginal Identity refers to those persons who reported identifying with at least one Aboriginal group, i.e. North American Indian, Métis or Inuit (Eskimo), and/or who reported being a Treaty Indian or a Registered Indian, as defined by the Indian Act of Canada, and/or who reported being a member of an Indian Band or First Nation.[1] The following eight sections highlighted are an analysis of the Census 2001 Labour Force Statistics.

1. Alberta's Aboriginal People Labour Force Statistics

- The population of Aboriginal Albertans was younger than the provincial population
- Almost one-fifth of Canada's working age population growth in Aboriginal People occurred in Alberta
- The growth rate of the working age population of Alberta Aboriginal People was more than double the growth rate of Alberta's working age population
- The Edmonton Region had the greatest number of Aboriginal People
- Aboriginal Albertans' employment growth was almost three times higher than Alberta's employment growth

2. Alberta's Aboriginal People Education Levels

- Twenty-nine percent of the Aboriginal People in Alberta had completed post-secondary certificates, diplomas or university degrees

3. Alberta's Aboriginal People Employment by Industry

- Forty percent of Alberta's Aboriginal People employed in the Goods-Producing sector were in the Construction Industry

4. Alberta's Aboriginal People Employment by Occupation

- More than half of Alberta's Aboriginal People were employed in Sales and Services and Trades, Transportation and Equipment Operator occupations

5. Alberta's Aboriginal People Average Total Income

- The average total income for Alberta's Aboriginal People was higher than the national average total income for Aboriginal People
- The average total income for Aboriginal males in Alberta was higher than other Canadian Aboriginal males
- Over sixty percent of Aboriginal Albertans had an average total income of less than $20,000

[1] 2001 Census Dictionary, Statistics Canada – Catalogue No. 92-378-XIE

6. Alberta's Aboriginal People Participation

- Alberta's Aboriginal People had the second highest participation rate of all provinces in Canada, following Ontario
- Alberta Human Resources and Employment's (AHRE) Calgary Region had the highest participation rate of Alberta's Aboriginal People
- The increase in the participation rate was higher for Alberta's Aboriginal People than for all Albertans
- Alberta's male Aboriginals had higher participation rates than female Aboriginals

7. Alberta's Aboriginal People Employment

- Alberta's Aboriginal People had the second highest employment rate of all provinces in Canada, following Ontario
- Employment rates for Alberta's Aboriginal People in the Edmonton and Calgary Regions were higher than elsewhere in the province
- Between 1996 and 2001, the increase in employment rates for Alberta's Aboriginal People was higher than the increase in employment rates for all Albertans
- The employment rate increased for Alberta's Aboriginal People who were off-reserve
- The number of employed Aboriginal Albertans was almost equal between males and females

8. Alberta's Aboriginal People Unemployment

- Alberta's Aboriginal People had the second lowest unemployment rate in Canada, following Ontario
- The South Region had the highest unemployment rate for Alberta's Aboriginal People
- The unemployment rates for Alberta's Aboriginal People have decreased over the last five years
- Alberta's Aboriginal People on-reserve had unemployment rates twice as high as those Aboriginal People off-reserve
- The unemployment rate decreased with age for Alberta's Aboriginal People
- The unemployment rate for female Aboriginal Albertans was lower than for male Aboriginal Albertans

Highlights

In September of 2003, results of the Aboriginal Labour Force Survey were released for the first time. Alberta Human Resources and Employment, Alberta Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development, and Alberta Finance sponsored the survey. The Aboriginal Labour Force Survey provides current and reliable information on the labour market conditions of Aboriginal Albertans. The Labour Force Survey provides monthly statistics on employment status, age groups and occupations of Aboriginal People living off-reserve. The following are annual Labour Force Statistics for the working age population (15 years and older) of Alberta's Aboriginal People living off-reserve for 2004.

9. Alberta's Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve) Labour Force Statistics

- Just under two-thirds of the working age population (15 years and older) of Alberta's Aboriginal People living off-reserve were Métis
- Nearly two-thirds of Alberta's Aboriginal People in the working age population were between the ages of 25 and 54
- More than half the population of Alberta's Aboriginal People living off-reserve were concentrated in the Edmonton and Calgary Economic Regions

10. Alberta's Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve) Education Level

- Thirty-seven percent of Alberta's Aboriginal People living off-reserve had graduated post secondary education
- Nearly one-third of Alberta's Aboriginal People living off-reserve had less than high school education

11. Alberta's Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve) Employment by Industry

- Industries employing more than two-thirds of Alberta's Aboriginal People living off-reserve were in the Services-Producing Sector
- More than half of Alberta's Aboriginal People were employed in the following industries: Construction; Retail or Wholesale Trade; Health Care and Social Assistance; Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas; and Accommodation and Food Services

12. Alberta's Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve) Employment by Occupation

- More than half of Alberta's Aboriginal People living off-reserve were employed in the following occupations: Sales and Services and Trades, Transportation and Equipment Operators

Highlights

13. Alberta's Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve) Participation

- Participation rates for Alberta's Aboriginal People living off-reserve was slightly less than that for all Albertans

14. Alberta's Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve) Employment

- Employment rates for Alberta's Aboriginal People were lower than those of all Albertans
- The employment rate for off-reserve Aboriginal Albertans was highest for the Métis population

15. Alberta's Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve) Unemployment

- The unemployment rate for Alberta's Aboriginal People was double the unemployment rate for all Albertans
- Alberta's North American Indians had higher unemployment rates than Métis Aboriginal People living in Alberta

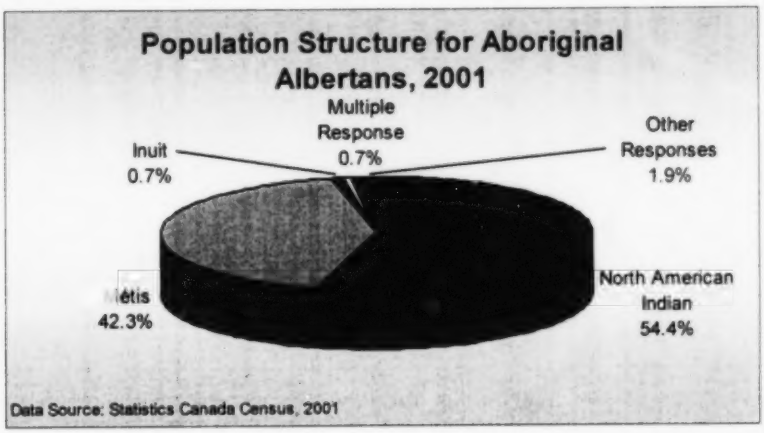
1. Alberta's Aboriginal People Labour Force Statistics

In the 2001 Census, Statistics Canada defined Aboriginal Identity as those persons who reported identifying with at least one Aboriginal group. These included: North American Indian, Métis or Inuit (Eskimo), and/or who reported being a Treaty Indian or a Registered Indian, as defined by the Indian Act of Canada, and/or who reported being a member of an Indian Band or First Nation.

Caution should be exercised in analyzing trends for Aboriginal People. Over time, patterns in Aboriginal self-identification have changed. In recent years a growing number of people who had not previously identified themselves with an Aboriginal group are now doing so.[2]

Chart 1 displays the composition of Aboriginal Albertans in 2001. The percentage of individuals identifying themselves as North American Indians was 54.4%, and the percent identifying themselves as Métis was 42.3%.

Chart 1



The population of Aboriginal Albertans was younger than the provincial population

Table 1 displays the population structure for Albertans and Aboriginal People in Alberta in 2001. Alberta's Aboriginal People were younger than the province's population. More than a third, or 34.4% of Alberta's Aboriginal People were children aged 0 to 14, whereas children aged 0 to 14 represented 21.1% of the total population for Alberta. While 9.7% of Albertans were over the age of 65, Alberta's Aboriginal People aged 65 and over represented a smaller portion of the population, at 3.3%.

[2] 2001 Census Dictionary, Statistics Canada – Catalogue No. 92-378-XIE

1. Alberta's Aboriginal People Labour Force Statistics

Table 1

Alberta Population by Age Group, 2001

	Alberta Totals		Aboriginal People	
	Number	% of total	Number	% of total
Total Population	2,941,150	100.0%	156,220	100.0%
0-4 Years	187,070	6.4%	16,890	10.8%
5-9 Years	209,180	7.1%	18,675	12.0%
10-14 Years	222,875	7.6%	18,130	11.6%
15-19 Years	221,655	7.5%	15,535	9.9%
20-24 Years	213,665	7.3%	13,145	8.4%
25-34 Years	427,855	14.5%	25,190	16.1%
35-44 Years	515,670	17.5%	22,330	14.3%
45-54 Years	418,825	14.2%	14,005	9.0%
55-64 Years	240,015	8.2%	7,185	4.6%
65+ Years	284,340	9.7%	5,135	3.3%

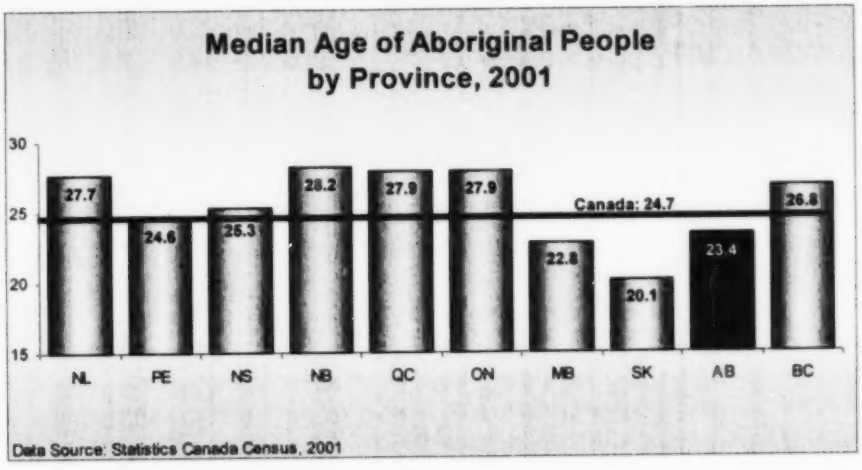
Data Source: Statistics Canada Census, 2001

Note: Alberta data includes the values for Aboriginal People

Note: Age group data may not add up to total population data due to rounding

Alberta's Aboriginal People had the third lowest median age, following Saskatchewan (20.1) and Manitoba (22.8). The median age is the point at which exactly one-half of the population is older, and the other half is younger. The median age of Aboriginal Albertans was 23.4 years in 2001, which was 1.3 years lower than the national Aboriginal average. This was also lower than Alberta's Non-Aboriginal People's median age of 35.4 years. Chart 2 displays further information about the median age of Aboriginals for Canada and the provinces.

Chart 2



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Caution should be exercised in analyzing trends for Aboriginal People. Over time, patterns in Aboriginal self-identification have changed. In recent years a growing number of people who had not previously identified themselves with an Aboriginal group are now doing so.[2]

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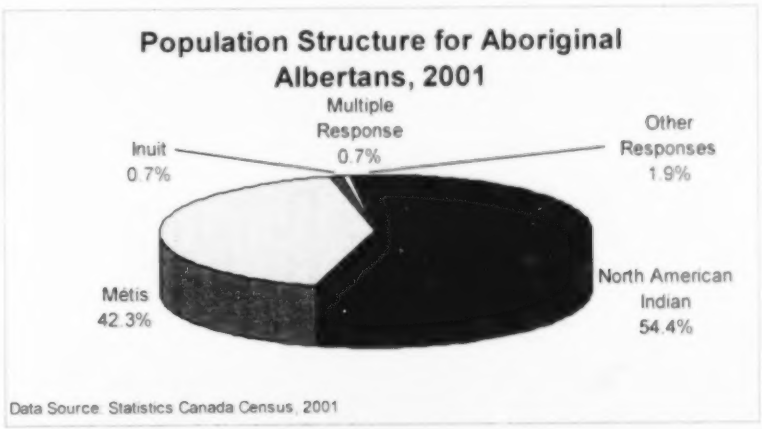

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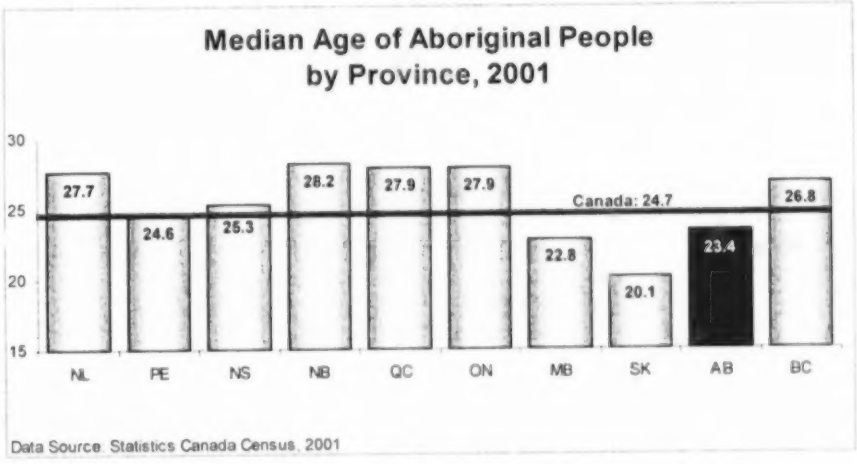


1. Alberta's Aboriginal People Labour Force Statistics

Almost one-fifth of Canada's working age population growth in Aboriginal People occurred in Alberta

Table 2 shows the working age population of Alberta in 1996 was 2.06 million and by 2001 had increased to 2.32 million. Working age population is composed of those persons 15 years of age and over, except inmates of institutions and full-time members of the Canadian Armed Forces.[3] The number of Albertans who reported Aboriginal identity increased by 32.2% between 1996 and 2001. The increase in Alberta's Aboriginal People accounted for 18.7% of the growth in Canada's Aboriginals aged 15 years and older between 1996 and 2001.

Table 2

Working Age Population, Canada and Alberta, 1996 and 2001

	1996	2001	1996-2001 Change	1996-2001 % Change
Canadians	22,628,925	23,901,360	1,272,435	5.6%
Aboriginal Canadians	518,595	652,350	133,755	25.8%
Albertans	2,055,020	2,322,025	267,005	13.0%
Aboriginal Albertans	77,570	102,525	24,955	32.2%

Data Source: Statistics Canada Census, 1996 and 2001

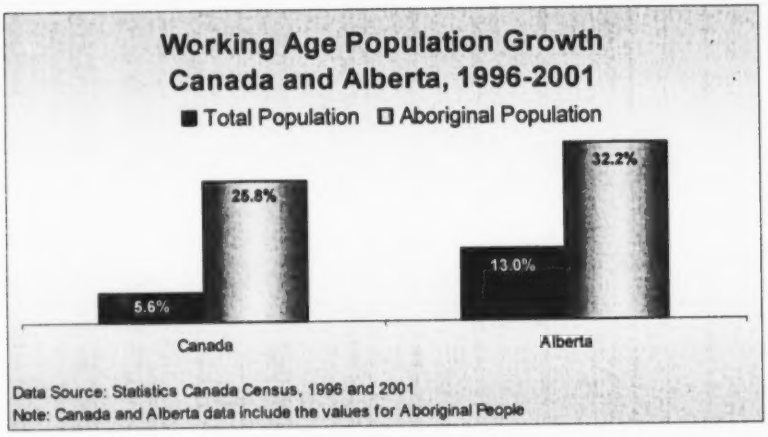
Note: Canada and Alberta data include the values for Aboriginal People

The growth rate of the working age population of Alberta Aboriginal People was more than double the growth rate of Alberta's working age population

Chart 3 shows the percentage change in the working age population for Canada and Alberta Aboriginal People. Between 1996 and 2001, the growth rates for Aboriginal People in Canada and in Alberta more than doubled the growth rates of all Canadians and all Albertans. In Canada, the population of Aboriginal People aged 15 years and older increased by 25.8%, while the population of Canadians aged 15 years and older increased by 5.6%. The population of working age Aboriginal People in Alberta increased by 32.2%, while the working age population of all Albertans increased by 13.0%. The Aboriginal People's growth rate in Alberta was 7.4 percentage points higher than the national Aboriginal People's growth rate.

[3] Guide to the Labour Force Survey, Statistics Canada – Catalogue no. 71-543-GIE

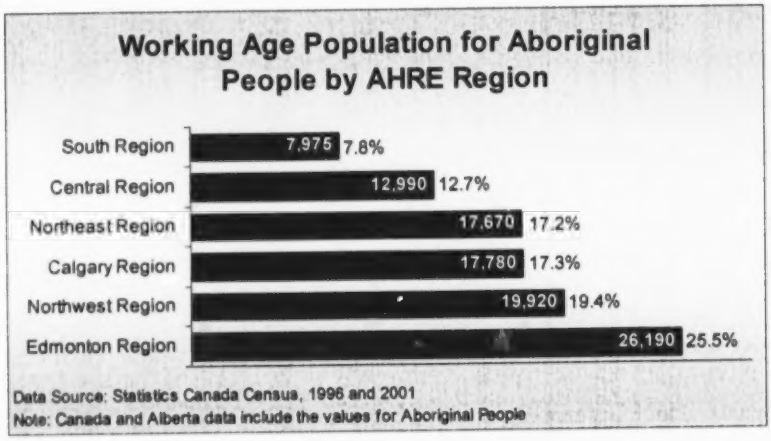
Chart 3



The Edmonton Region had the greatest number of Aboriginal People

Chart 4 shows the number of Aboriginal People in Alberta Human Resources and Employment's (AHRE) six regions.[4] Nearly two-thirds, or 62.2% of Alberta's Aboriginal People lived in the Edmonton, Northwest and Northeast regions in 2001. In this same year, the Edmonton Region had the highest Aboriginal Albertans' working age population with 26,190, which was over a quarter, or 25.5% of Alberta's total Aboriginal People's working age population.

Chart 4



[4] Map of AHRE Regions: http://www3.gov.ab.ca/hre/offices/map.asp

1. Alberta's Aboriginal People Labour Force Statistics

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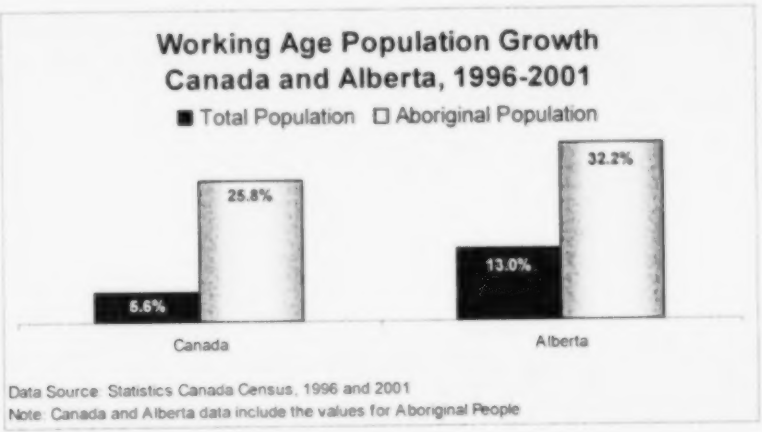

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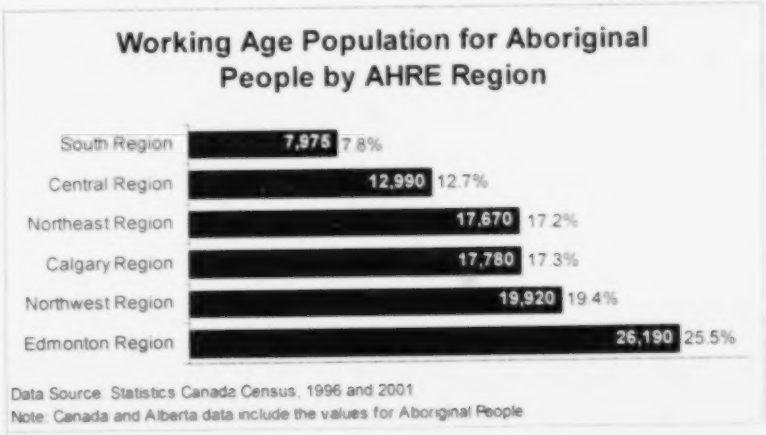

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[4] Map of AHRE Regions: http://www3.gov.ab.ca/hre/offices/map.asp

1. Alberta's Aboriginal People Labour Force Statistics

Aboriginal Albertans' employment growth was almost three times higher than Alberta's employment growth

The labour force is composed of the portion of the working age population who, during the reference week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day (May 15, 2001), were employed or unemployed.[5] Table 3 displays labour force statistics for Aboriginal Albertans. Between 1996 and 2001, the number of Aboriginal People who participated in Alberta's labour force increased by 32.2%. During that time, the employment growth rate for Aboriginal People was three times that of all Albertans. The number of unemployed Aboriginal People in Alberta decreased by 2.4%. The number of unemployed Albertans decreased by 18.0%.

Table 3

Aborinal People Labour Force Statistics, Alberta, 1996 and 2001

	Alberta Totals			Aboriginal People		
	1996	2001	% Change	1996	2001	% Change
Working Age Population	2,055,020	2,322,020	13.0%	77,570	102,525	32.2%
Employed	1,379,710	1,608,840	16.6%	37,420	55,980	49.6%
Unemployed	107,270	87,920	-18.0%	10,040	9,800	-2.4%

Data Source: Statistics Canada Census, 1996 and 2001

Note: Alberta data includes the values for Aboriginal People

Back to Highlights

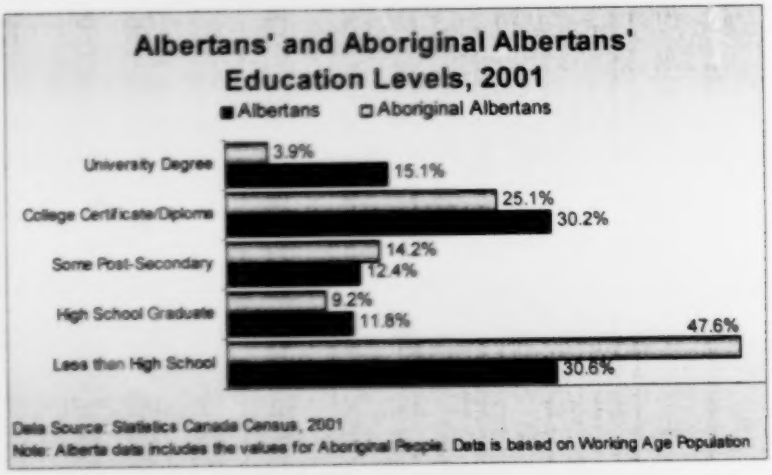
[5] 2001 Census Dictionary, Statistics Canada – Catalogue No. 92-378-XIE

2. Alberta's Aboriginal People Education Levels

Twenty-nine percent of the Aboriginal People in Alberta had post-secondary certificates, diplomas or university degrees

Highest level of education as defined in the Statistics Canada Census refers to the highest grade or year of elementary or secondary school attended, or to the highest year of university or college education completed.[6] Chart 5 shows that in 2001, 47.6% of Aboriginal Albertans had less than a high school education. This was 17.0 percentage points higher than the provincial total of 30.6%. Those Aboriginal Albertans who had some level of post-secondary education in 2001 represented 43.2% of the Aboriginal population in Alberta; in comparison, 57.7% of Alberta's population had some level of post-secondary education.

Chart 5



Back to Highlights

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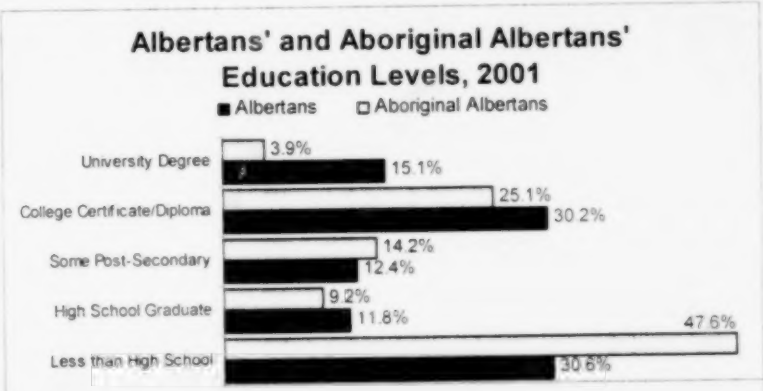

Data Source: Statistics Canada Census, 2001
Note: Alberta data includes the values for Aboriginal People. Data is based on Working Age Population

Back to Highlights

[6] 2001 Census Dictionary, Statistics Canada – Catalogue No. 92-378-XIE

3. Alberta's Aboriginal People Employment by Industry

Industry refers to the general nature of the business carried out in the establishment where the person worked. If the person did not have a job during the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to enumeration (May 15, 2001), the data relates to the job of longest duration since January 1, 2000. Persons with two or more jobs were required to report the information for the job at which they worked the most hours.[7]

Forty percent of Alberta's Aboriginal People employed in the Goods-Producing sector were in the Construction Industry

Table 4 displays Alberta's Aboriginal People employment by industry. Nearly three-quarters or 72.0% of Aboriginal Albertans were employed in the Service-Producing sector. The Goods-Producing sector employed 28.0% of Alberta's Aboriginal People. In 2001, half or 49.5% of Alberta's Aboriginal People were employed in the following five industries: Construction, Health Care and Social Assistance, Retail Trade, Public Administration, and Accommodation and Food Services.

Table 4

Employment by Industry for Aboriginal People, Alberta, 2001

	Employment	% of total
Total Employment	**55,980**	**100.0%**
Total: Good-Producing Sector	**15,660**	**28.0%**
Construction	6,160	11.0%
Manufacturing	**3,835**	**6.9%**
Mining and Oil & Gas Extraction	3,400	6.1%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	**1,920**	**3.4%**
Utilities	345	0.6%
Total: Service-Producing Sector	**40,320**	**72.0%**
Accommodation and Food Services	4,845	8.7%
Retail Trade	**5,530**	**9.9%**
Public Administration	5,325	9.5%
Health Care and Social Assistance	**5,795**	**10.4%**
Educational Services	3,420	6.1%
Administrative and Support Services	**2,745**	**4.9%**
Transportation and Warehousing	3,280	5.9%
Other Services	**2,565**	**4.6%**
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	1,870	3.3%
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	**1,635**	**2.9%**
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	1,190	2.1%
Wholesale Trade	**1,370**	**2.4%**
Information and Cultural Industries	735	1.3%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	**15**	**0.0%**

Data Source: Statistics Canada Census, 2001

Back to Highlights

[7] 2001 Census Dictionary, Statistics Canada – Catalogue No. 92-378-XI4,060E

4. Alberta's Aboriginal People Employment by Occupation

Occupation refers to the kind of work persons 15 years of age and over were doing during the reference week, as determined by the kind of work reported and the description of the most important duties of the job. If the individual did not have a job during the reference week, the data relates to the previous job, if the job was held in the past year. Aboriginals with two or more jobs reported the information for the job at which they worked the most hours.[8]

More than half of Alberta's Aboriginal People were employed in Sales and Services or Trades, Transportation, and Equipment Operator occupations

Chart 6 displays Alberta's Aboriginal People employment by occupation and refers to the experienced population who were employed or unemployed and persons who worked for pay or in self-employment since January 1, 2000.[9] More than half, or 54.1% of Alberta's Aboriginal People were employed in two occupations: Sales and Services at 30.8%; and Trades, Transportation and Equipment Operators at 23.3%.

Chart 6

Back to Highlights

[8] 2001 Census Dictionary, Statistics Canada – Catalogue No. 92-378-XIE
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Back to Highlights

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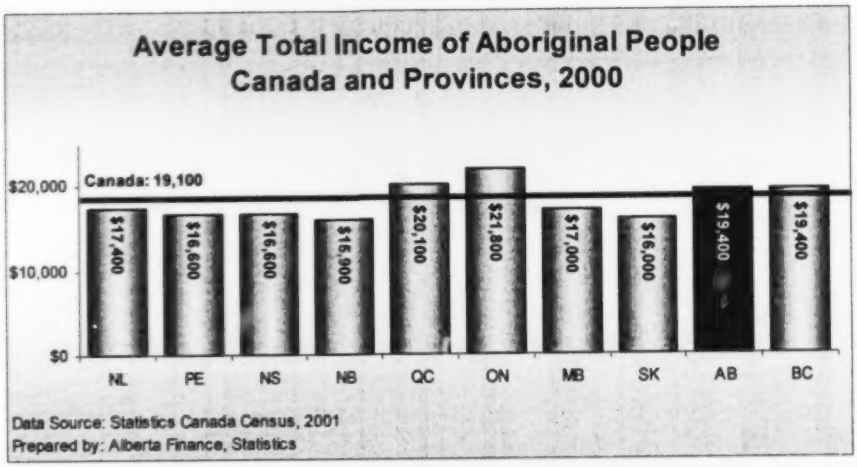
5. Alberta's Aboriginal People Average Total Income

The average total income for Alberta's Aboriginal People was higher than the national average total income for Aboriginal People

Average income of individuals refers to the weighted mean total income of individuals 15 years of age and over who reported income for the year 2000, excluding institutional residents.[10] Chart 7 displays the average total income for Aboriginal People in Canada and the provinces. Alberta Aboriginal People's average annual income of $19,400 was $300 above the national average.

Chart 7



The average total income for Aboriginal males in Alberta was higher than other Canadian Aboriginal males

Chart 8 shows that Alberta's Aboriginal males' average total income was $1,600 more than that of other Canadian Aboriginal males. Alberta's Aboriginal females' average total income was $900 less than that of other Canadian Aboriginal females. In 2000, Alberta Aboriginal females' average total income was $8000 less than the average total income for male Aboriginals.

[10] 2001 Census Dictionary, Statistics Canada – Catalogue No. 92-378-XIE

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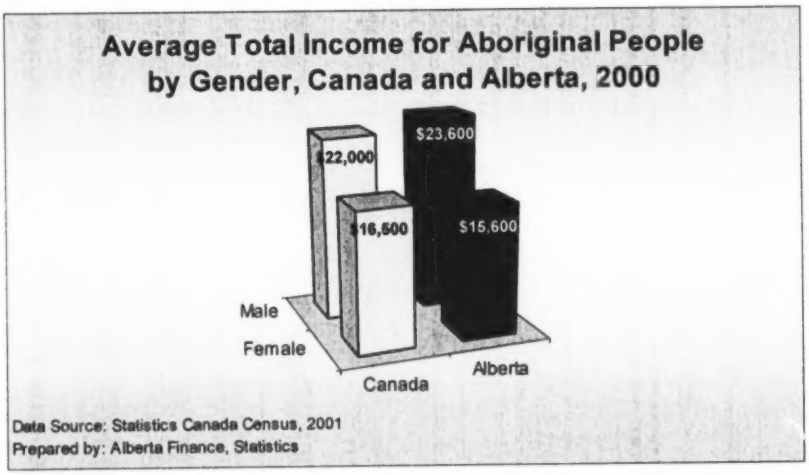
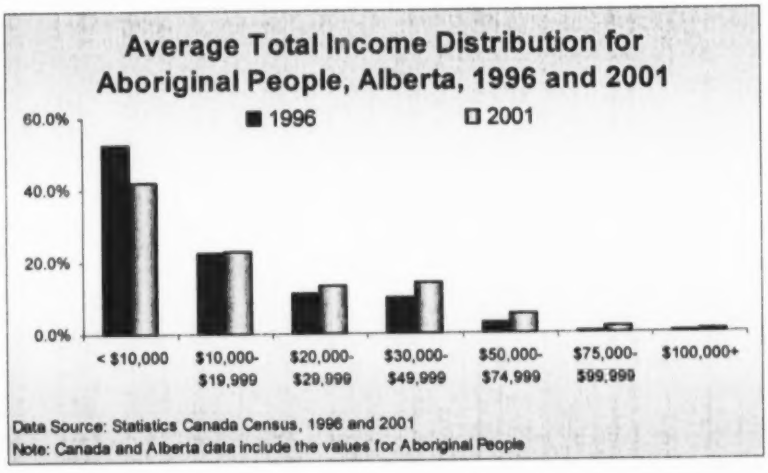


Over sixty percent of Aboriginal Albertans had an average total income of less than $20,000

Chart 9 displays the average total income distribution for Aboriginal Albertans in 1996 and 2001. The average total income for Alberta's Aboriginal People increased between 1996 and 2001. During that time the percent of Alberta's Aboriginal People with an average total income of less than $10,000 decreased by 10.3 percentage points. Nearly two-thirds, or 64.7% of Alberta's Aboriginal People had average total incomes less than $20,000 in 2001.

Chart 9



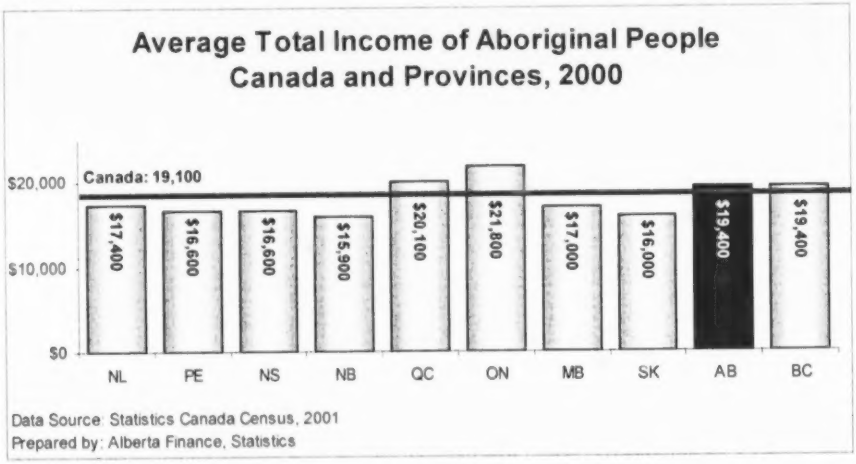
Back to Highlights

5. Alberta's Aboriginal People Average Total Income

The average total income for Alberta's Aboriginal People was higher than the national average total income for Aboriginal People

Average income of individuals refers to the weighted mean total income of individuals 15 years of age and over who reported income for the year 2000, excluding institutional residents.[10] Chart 7 displays the average total income for Aboriginal People in Canada and the provinces. Alberta Aboriginal People's average annual income of $19,400 was $300 above the national average.

Chart 7



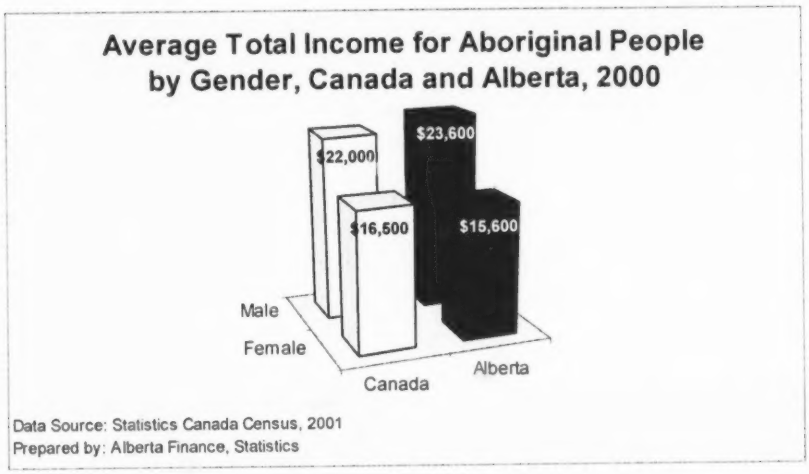
The average total income for Aboriginal males in Alberta was higher than other Canadian Aboriginal males

Chart 8 shows that Alberta's Aboriginal males' average total income was $1,600 more than that of other Canadian Aboriginal males. Alberta's Aboriginal females' average total income was $900 less than that of other Canadian Aboriginal females. In 2000, Alberta Aboriginal females' average total income was $8000 less than the average total income for male Aboriginals.

[10] 2001 Census Dictionary, Statistics Canada – Catalogue No. 92-378-XIE

5. Alberta's Aboriginal People Average Total Income

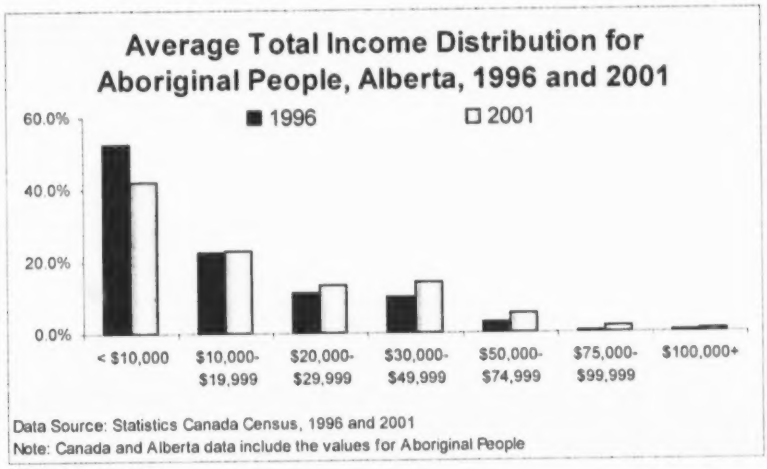
Chart 8



Over sixty percent of Aboriginal Albertans had an average total income of less than $20,000

Chart 9 displays the average total income distribution for Aboriginal Albertans in 1996 and 2001. The average total income for Alberta's Aboriginal People increased between 1996 and 2001. During that time the percent of Alberta's Aboriginal People with an average total income of less than $10,000 decreased by 10.3 percentage points. Nearly two-thirds, or 64.7% of Alberta's Aboriginal People had average total incomes less than $20,000 in 2001.

Chart 9



Back to Highlights

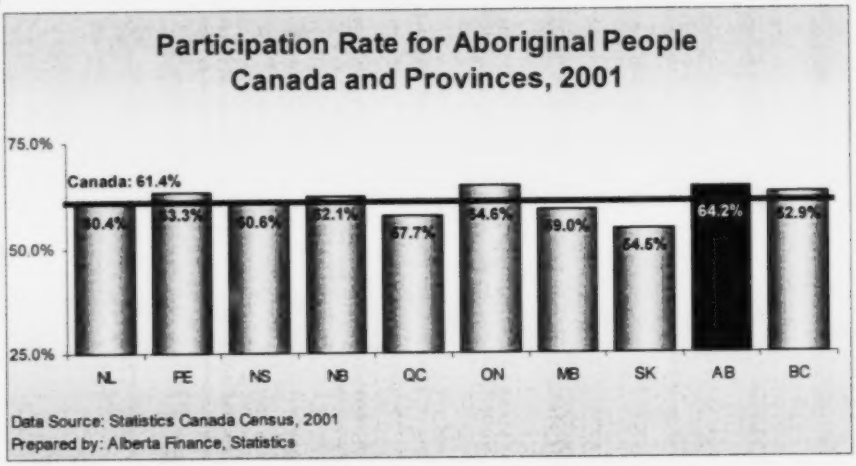
6. Alberta's Aboriginal People Participation

Alberta's Aboriginal People had the second highest participation rate of all provinces in Canada, following Ontario

The participation rate refers to the labour force in the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day (May 15, 2001), expressed as a percentage of the population 15 years of age and over. This represents the proportion of the working age population that is either employed or actively seeking employment.[11]

Chart 10 shows that Aboriginal Albertans' participation rate of 64.2% was second highest after Ontario (64.6%) among Aboriginal People in other provinces. This was 2.8 percentage points higher than the national average for Aboriginal People.

Chart 10



Alberta Human Resources and Employment's (AHRE) Calgary Region had the highest participation rate of Alberta's Aboriginal People

Chart 11 displays the Aboriginal Albertans' participation rates for the AHRE regions. In 2001, the Calgary Region had the highest participation rate amongst Aboriginal Albertans at 72.2%, which was 8.0 percentage points higher than the provincial average. The South Region had the lowest participation rate at 57.0%.

[11] 2001 Census Dictionary, Statistics Canada – Catalogue No. 92-378-XIE

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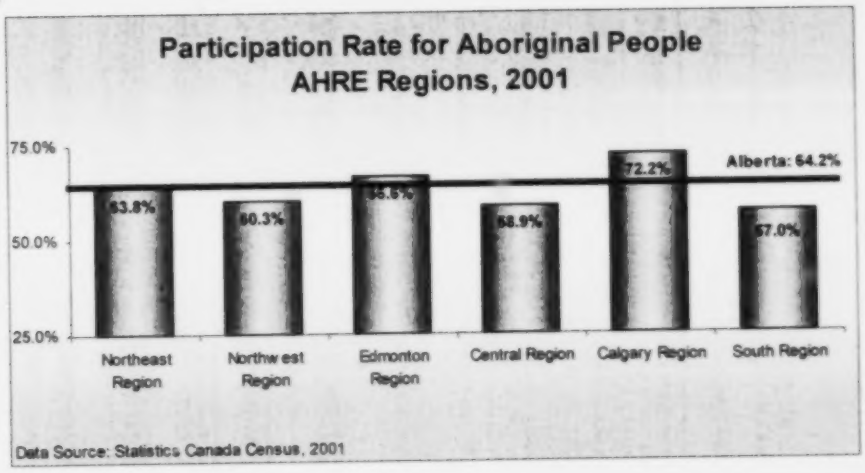

The increase in the participation rate was higher for Alberta's Aboriginal People than for all Albertans

Chart 12 shows participation rates for Alberta's Aboriginal People and all Albertans in 1996 and 2001. Between 1996 and 2001, Alberta's participation rate increased by 0.7 percentage points, while the Aboriginal Albertans' participation rate increased by 3.0 percentage points, over four times the growth of the provincial participation rate. In 2001, the provincial participation rate was 8.9 percentage points higher than the Aboriginal Albertans' participation rate.

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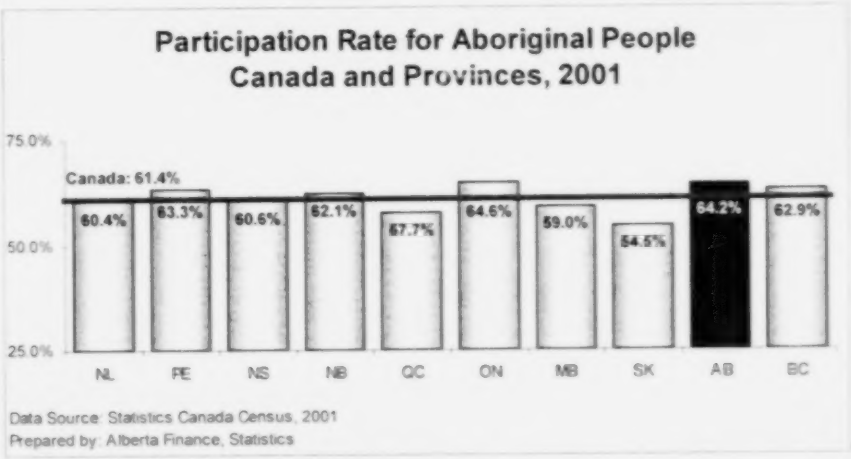

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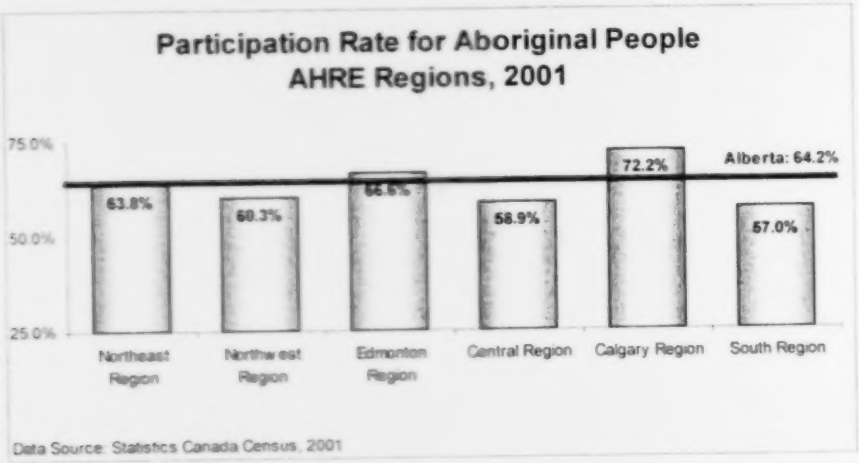

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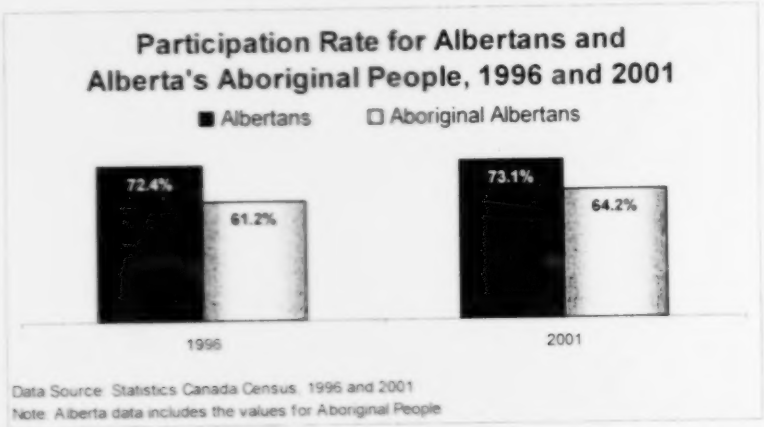
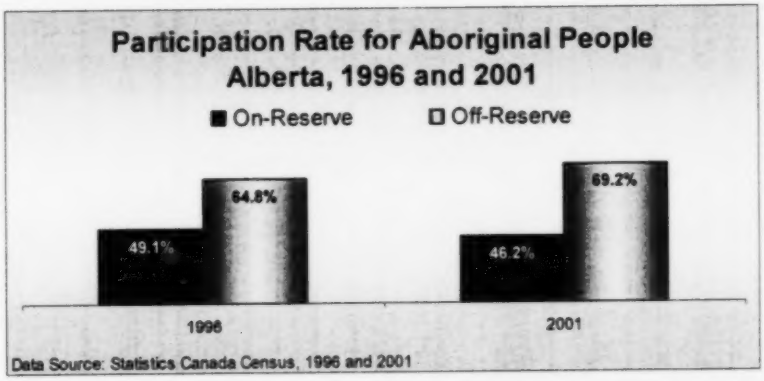


6. Alberta's Aboriginal People Participation

Chart 13 shows participation rates for Alberta's Aboriginal People varied according to whether they lived on or off an Indian Reserve or Indian Settlement. In Alberta, the on-reserve population includes all people living in any of two census subdivision types legally affiliated with First Nations or Indian Bands; namely, Indian Reserves and Indian Settlements.[12] Between 1996 and 2001, the off-reserve Alberta Aboriginal People's participation rate rose by 4.4 percentage points to 69.2%, while the on-reserve participation rate decreased by 2.9 percentage points to 46.2%.

Chart 13



Alberta's male Aboriginals had higher participation rates than female Aboriginals

Chart 14 shows Alberta's Aboriginal People and all Albertans' participation rates by gender in 2001. The difference between the participation rates of males in Alberta and Aboriginal males in Alberta was 9.4 percentage points in 2001, compared to the 7.9 percentage points difference between females.

Chart 14

Back to Highlights

[12] 2001 Census Dictionary, Statistics Canada – Catalogue No. 92-378-XIE

7. Alberta's Aboriginal People Employment

The employment rate refers to the number of people employed in the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to the Census Day (May 15, 2001), expressed as a percentage of the total population 15 years of age and over.[13]

Alberta's Aboriginal People had the second highest employment rate of all provinces in Canada, following Ontario

Chart 15 shows that in 2001, the employment rate of 54.6% for Alberta's Aboriginal People was second highest in Canada, after Ontario (55.1%). This was 4.9 percentage points higher than the national average of 49.7% for Aboriginal People.

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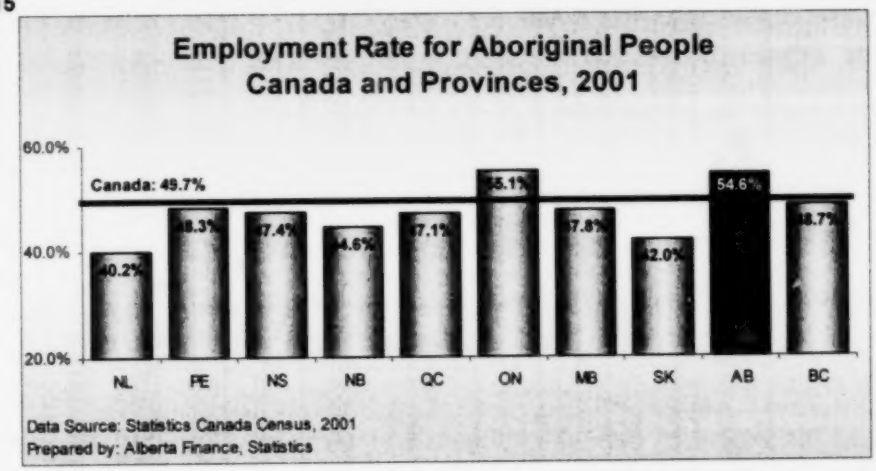

Employment rates for Alberta's Aboriginal People in the Edmonton and Calgary Regions were higher than elsewhere in the province

Chart 16 shows the employment rate for Alberta's Aboriginal People in the six AHRE regions. In 2001, the Calgary Region had the highest employment rate at 64.5%, which was 9.9 percentage points higher than the provincial Aboriginal People's average. The Edmonton Region was also above the provincial average, at 57.7%. The South Region had the lowest Aboriginal People's employment rate at 46.5%.

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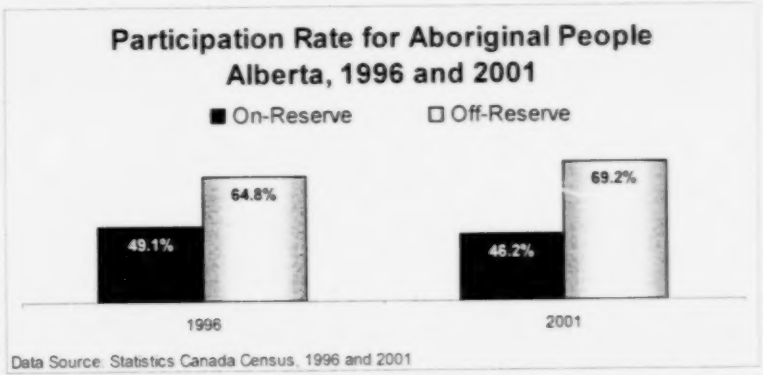

Data Source: Statistics Canada Census, 1996 and 2001

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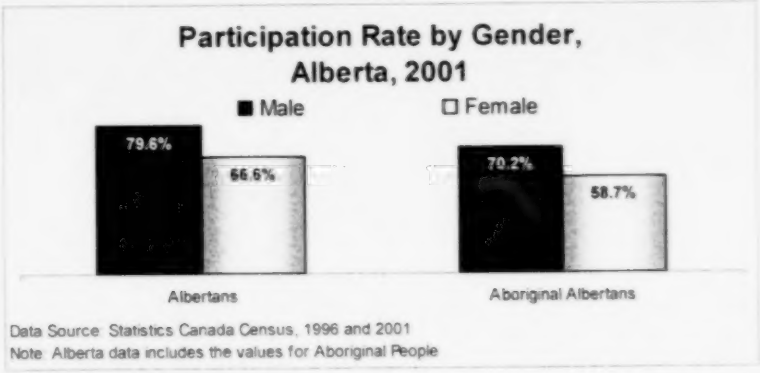

Data Source: Statistics Canada Census, 1996 and 2001
Note: Alberta data includes the values for Aboriginal People

Back to Highlights

[12] 2001 Census Dictionary, Statistics Canada – Catalogue No. 92-378-XIE

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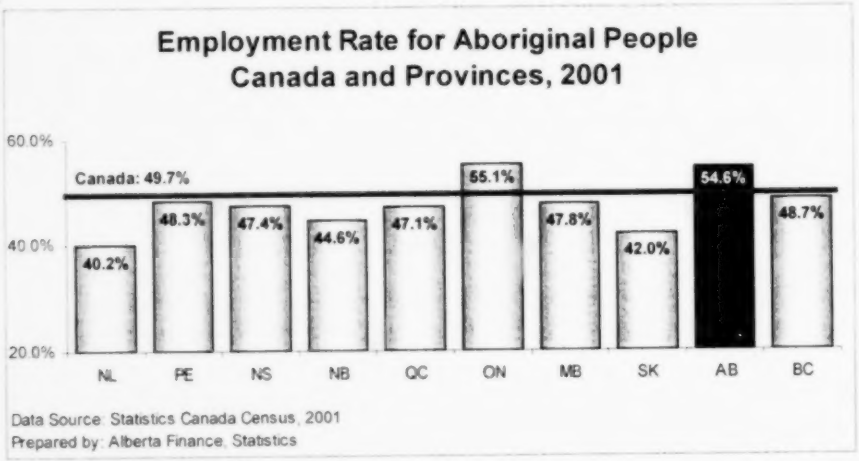

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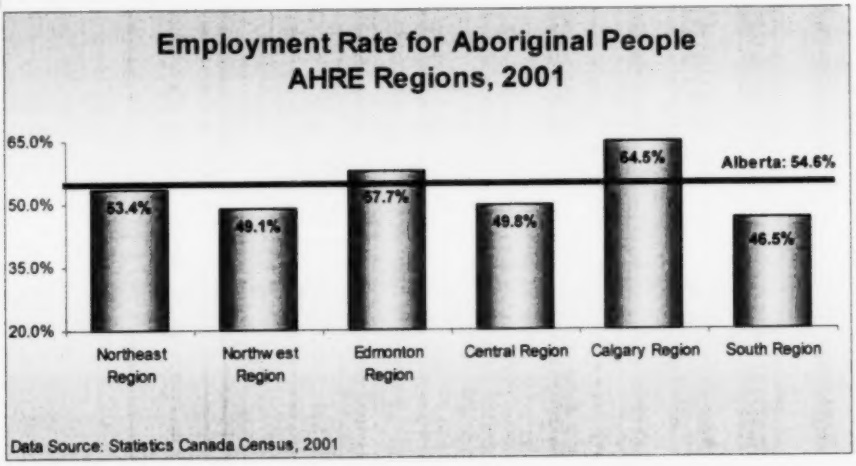

Between 1996 and 2001, the increase in employment rates for Alberta's Aboriginal People was higher than the increase in employment rates for all Albertans

Chart 17 shows employment rates for all Albertans and Alberta's Aboriginal People. Between 1996 and 2001, the employment rate for Alberta's Aboriginal People increased by 6.4 percentage points, while the provincial rate increased by 2.2 percentage points. In 2001, the employment rate for Alberta's Aboriginal People was 14.7 percentage points lower than the provincial employment rate.

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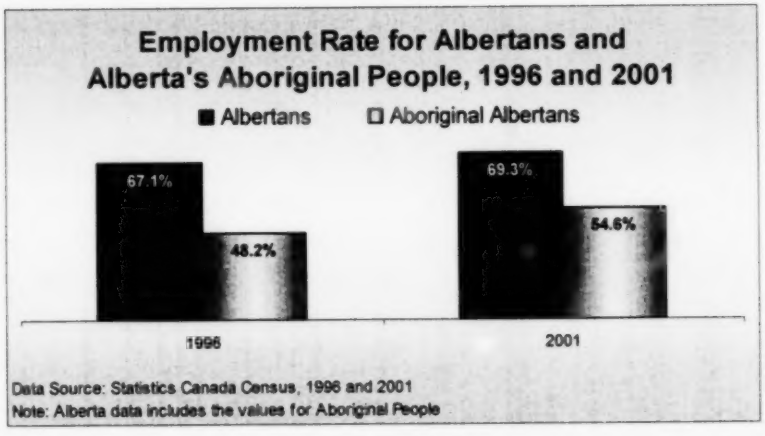

7. Alberta's Aboriginal People Employment

The employment rate increased for Alberta's Aboriginal People who were off-reserve

Chart 18 shows the employment rate for Alberta's Aboriginal People by reserve status for 1996 and 2001. The employment rate of 60.6% for Alberta's Aboriginal People off-reserve was 8.6 percentage points higher in 2001 than in 1996. The on-reserve employment rate for Alberta's Aboriginal People fell 2.1 percentage points to 33.5% in 2001. In 2001, the off-reserve Aboriginal People's employment rate was 27.1 percentage points higher than the Aboriginal People's on-reserve employment rate.

Chart 18

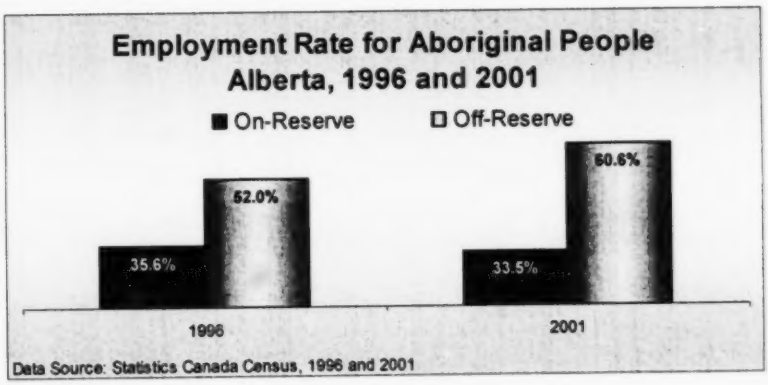

Chart 19 shows that male and female Albertans had higher employment rates than Alberta's Aboriginal males and females. The employment rate for Alberta males was 16.3 percentage points higher than Aboriginal males. The employment rate for Alberta females was 12.6 percentage points higher than Aboriginal females.

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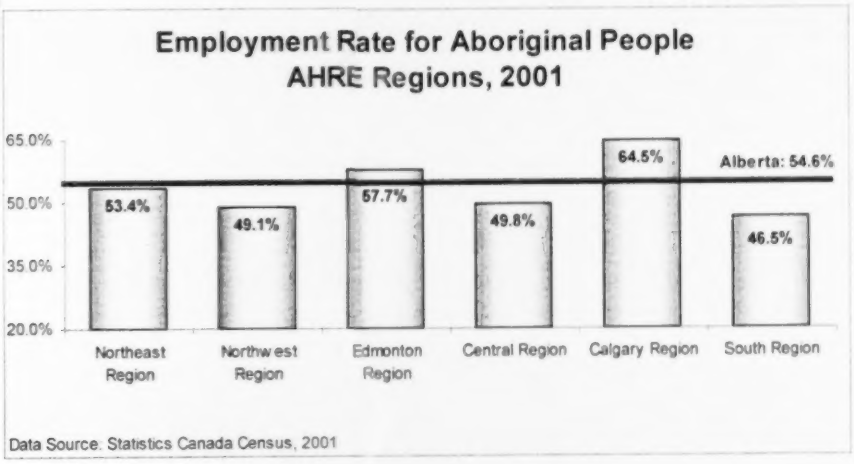

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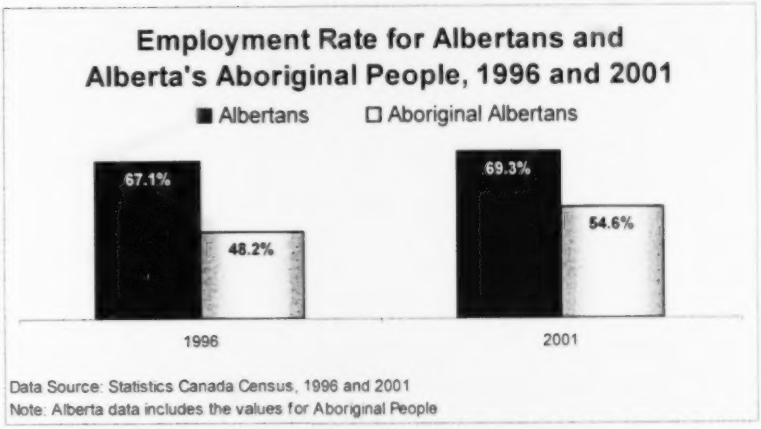

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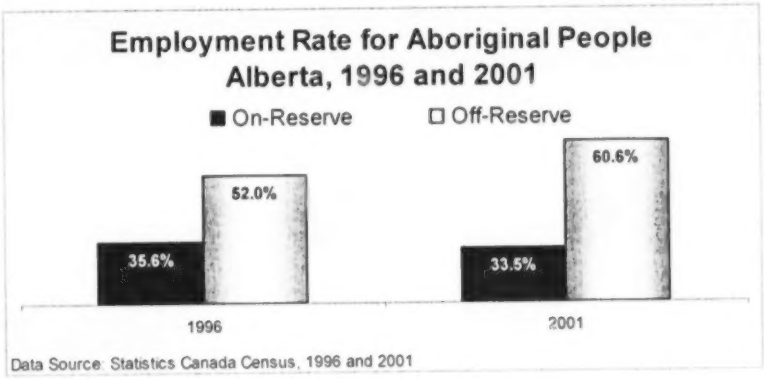

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7. Alberta's Aboriginal People Employment

The number of employed Aboriginal Albertans was almost equal between males and females

Employment refers to those people who, during the work week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day (May 15, 2001), did any work at all for pay or in self-employment or without pay in a family farm, business, or professional practice, or were absent from their job or business, with or without pay, for the entire week because of vacation, an illness, a labour dispute at their place of work, or any other reasons.[14] In 2001, nearly half or 48.7% of Alberta's Aboriginal People employed were female. Below Table 5 shows employment totals by gender for both Alberta's Aboriginal People and all Albertans.

Table 5

Employment by Gender, Alberta, 2001

	Aboriginal People		Albertans	
	Employed	% of total	Employed	% of total
Both Genders	55,980	100.0%	1,608,840	100.0%
Employed	28,695	51.3%	872,770	54.2%
Unemployed	27,280	48.7%	736,070	45.8%

Data Source: Statistics Canada Census, 2001

Note: Alberta data includes the values for Aboriginal People

Back to Highlights

[14] 2001 Census Dictionary, Statistics Canada – Catalogue No. 92-378-XIE

8. Alberta's Aboriginal People Unemployment

The unemployment rate refers to the unemployed expressed as a percentage of the labour force in the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day (May 15, 2001).[15]

Alberta's Aboriginal People had the second lowest unemployment rate in Canada, following Ontario

Alberta's Aboriginal People had the second lowest unemployment rate after Ontario (14.9%). Chart 20 illustrates that the unemployment rates for Alberta's Aboriginal People was 4.2 percentage points lower than the national average.

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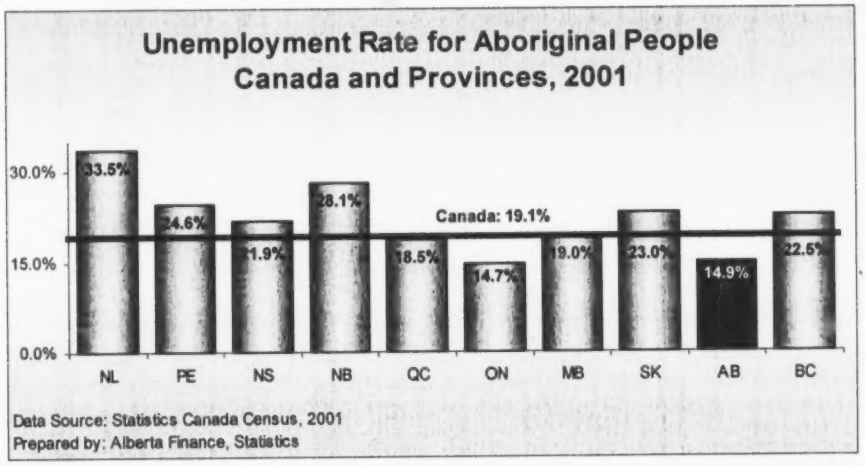

The South Region had the highest unemployment rate for Alberta's Aboriginal People

Chart 21 displays the unemployment rate for Alberta's Aboriginal People by AHRE's six regions. In 2001, the Calgary Region had the lowest unemployment rate at 10.7%, which was followed by the Edmonton Region at 13.4%. The South Region had the highest Aboriginal People unemployment rate at 18.5%, which was 3.6 percentage points higher than the provincial average.

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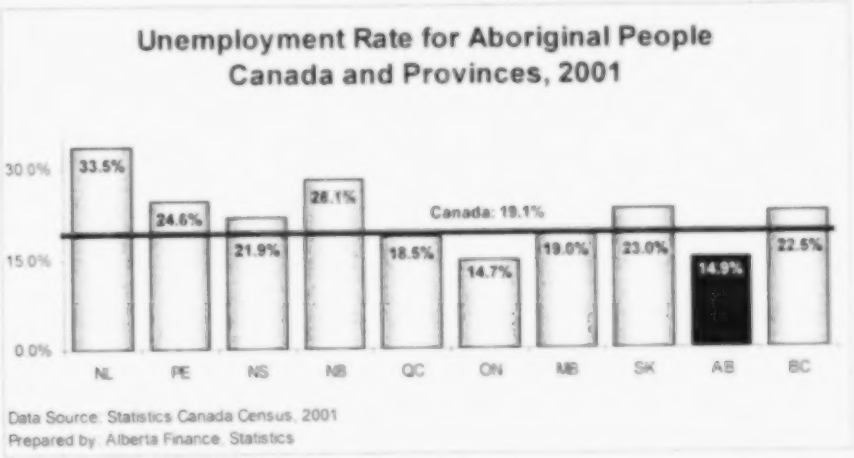

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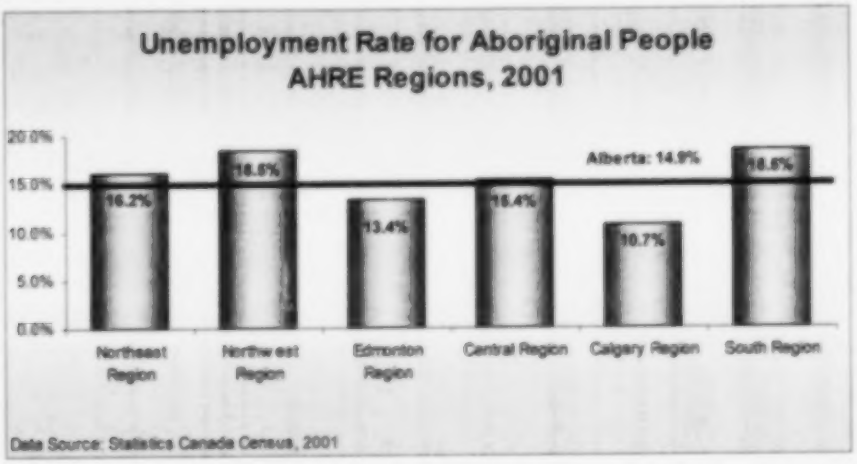
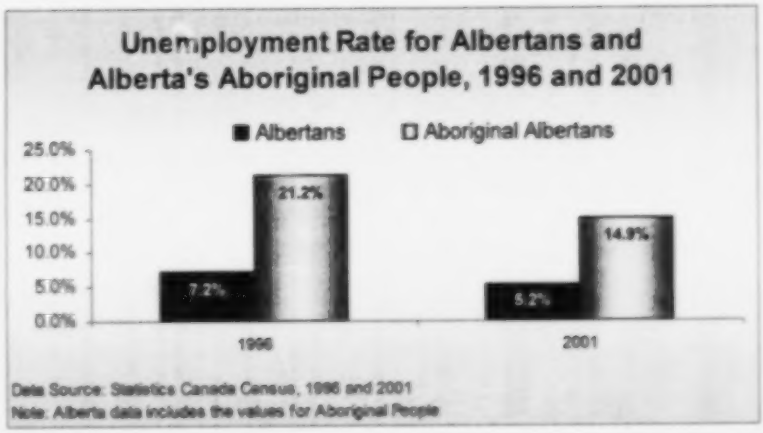


The unemployment rates for Alberta's Aboriginal People have decreased over the last five years

Chart 22 shows unemployment rates for all Albertans and Alberta's Aboriginal People in 1996 and 2001. During that five-year period, the unemployment rate for all Albertans decreased 2.0 percentage points while Alberta's Aboriginal People's unemployment rate decreased by 6.3 percentage points. In 2001, the provincial unemployment rate was about one third of the Aboriginal People's rate.

Chart 22



8. Alberta's Aboriginal People Unemployment

Alberta's Aboriginal People on-reserve had unemployment rates twice as high as those Aboriginal People off-reserve

Chart 23 shows unemployment rates for Alberta's Aboriginal People by reserve status. In 2001, the difference between unemployment rates for Alberta's Aboriginal People on-reserve and off-reserve was 15.1 percentage points. While the on-reserve unemployment rate remained constant between 1996 and 2001, the off-reserve unemployment rate decreased by 7.2 percentage points.

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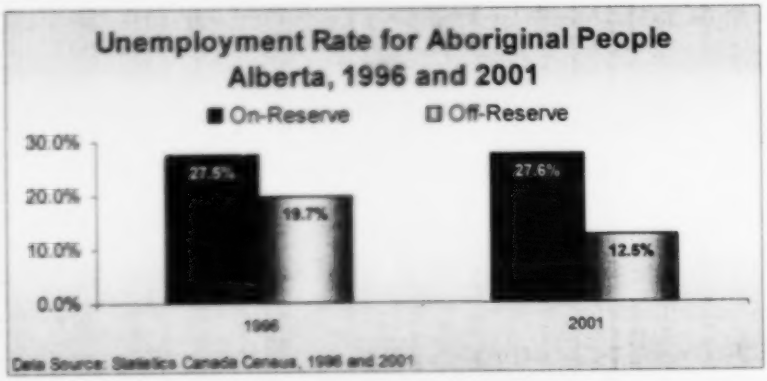

The unemployment rate decreased with age for Alberta's Aboriginal People

Chart 24 shows unemployment rate by age and gender for Alberta's Aboriginal People in 2001. The unemployment rate for Alberta Aboriginal males between the ages of 15 and 24 years was 20.6%, whereas Alberta Aboriginal males 45 years and over had a lower unemployment rate, at 12.6%. For those Aboriginal People who were younger than 35 years, the unemployment rate was equal between genders, but for those Aboriginal People over 35 years of age, the unemployment rate was lower for females.

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8. Alberta's Aboriginal People Unemployment

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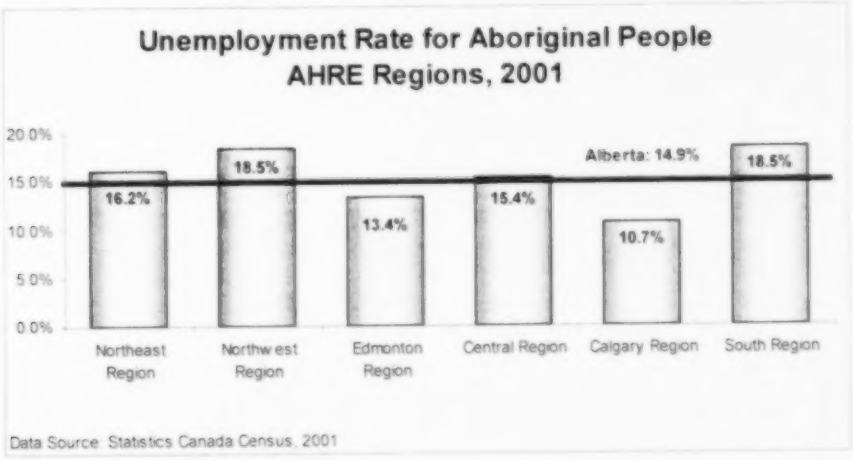

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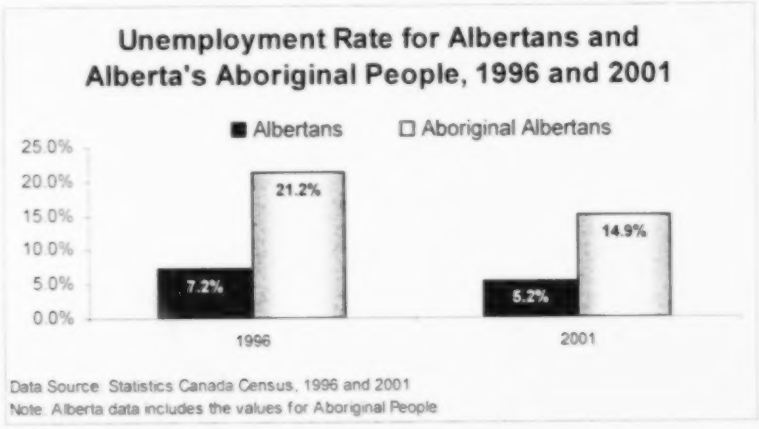

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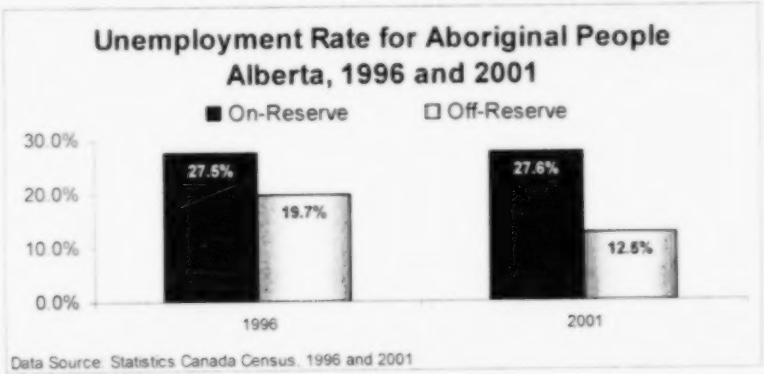

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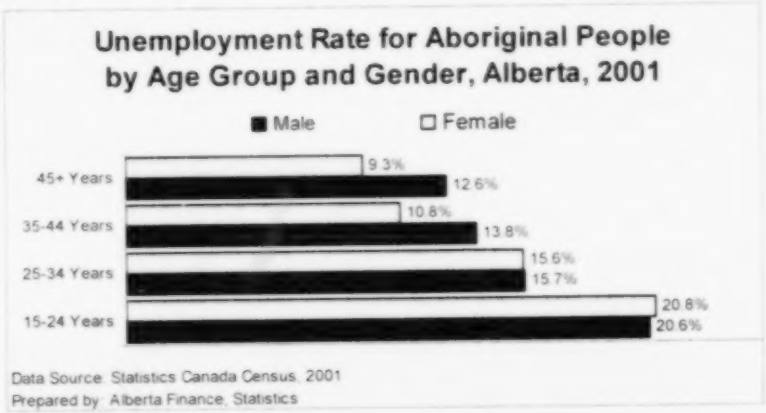
Chart 24



8. Alberta's Aboriginal People Unemployment

The unemployment rate for female Aboriginal Albertans was lower than male Aboriginal Albertans

Alberta's Aboriginal males' unemployment rate of 15.7% was 1.7 percentage points higher than the unemployment rate for Aboriginal females. The difference in unemployment rates between genders for all Albertans was 0.1 percentage points. Chart 25 shows unemployment rates by gender for all Albertans and Alberta's Aboriginal People in 2001.

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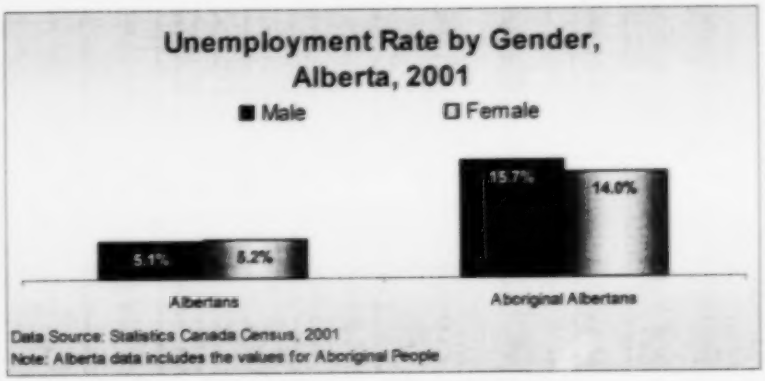


Unemployment refers to those people who, during the work week (Sunday to Saturday) before Census Day (May 15, 2001), were without paid work or without self-employment work and were available for the work. In addition, those people who were unemployed either had actively looked for paid work in the past four weeks, or were on temporary lay-off and expected to return to their job, or had definite arrangements to start a new job in four weeks or less.[16] The proportions of males and females unemployed were similar for all Albertans and Alberta's Aboriginal People.

Table 6

Unemployment by Gender, Alberta, 2001

	Aboriginal People		Albertans	
	Unemployed	% of total	Unemployed	% of total
Both Genders	9,795	100.0%	87,920	100.0%
Employed	5,345	54.6%	47,375	53.9%
Unemployed	4,455	45.5%	40,545	46.1%

Data Source: Statistics Canada Census, 2001

Note: Alberta data includes the values for Aboriginal People

Back to Highlights

[16] 2001 Census Dictionary, Statistics Canada – Catalogue No. 92-378-XIE

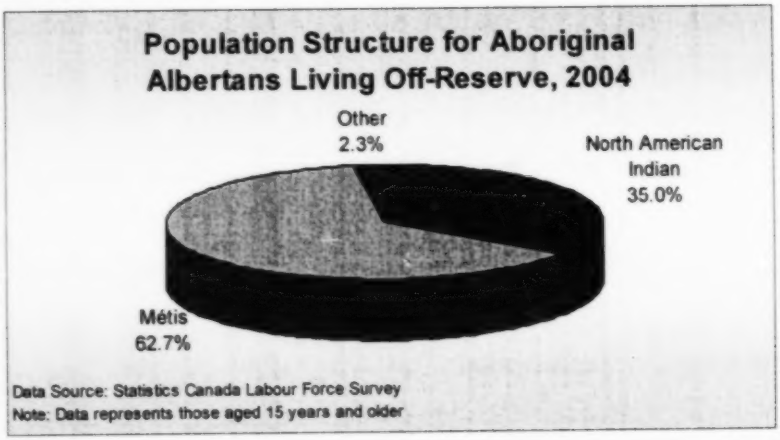
9. Alberta's Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve) Labour Force Statistics

In September of 2003, the Aboriginal Labour Force Survey was launched. The Aboriginal Labour Force Survey provides timely and reliable information on the labour market conditions of Alberta's Aboriginal People off-reserve. The Labour Force Survey provides monthly statistics on employment status, age groups, and occupations of Aboriginal People living off-reserve. The following are annual Labour Force Statistics for the working age population (15 years and older) of Alberta's Aboriginal People living off-reserve for 2004.

Nearly two thirds of the working age population (15 years and older) of Alberta's Aboriginal People living off-reserve were Métis

Chart 26 shows the composition for the working age population (15 years and older) of Alberta's Aboriginal People living off-reserve. North American Indians made up 35.0% of the population, Métis represented 62.7% of the population, and 2.3% were Other (Inuit or multiple responses).

Chart 26



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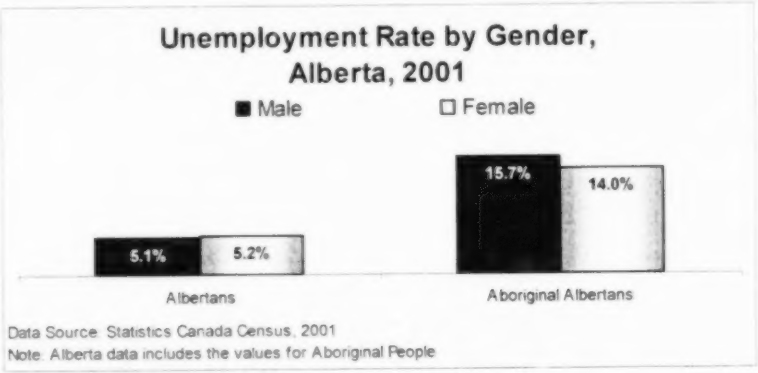

Data Source: Statistics Canada Census, 2001
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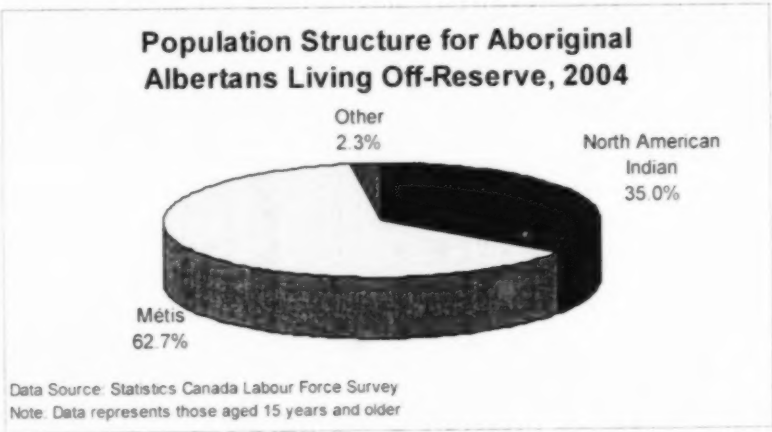

Data Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey
Note: Data represents those aged 15 years and older

9. Alberta's Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve) Labour Force Statistics

Nearly two-thirds of Alberta's Aboriginal People in the working age population were between the ages of 25 and 54

Table 7 shows that in 2004, the working age population of Alberta's Aboriginal People living off-reserve was 95,500. The proportion of Aboriginal People between the ages of 15 and 24 was 28.2%, 58.7% were between the ages of 25 and 54, and 13.1% were 55 years of age or older.

Table 7

Aboriginal People Living Off-Reserve by Age Group, Alberta, 2004

	All Aboriginal People		North American Indian		Métis		Other	
	Population	% of total	Population	% of total	Population	% of total	Population	% of total
Total Aged 15+	95,500	100.0%	33,400	100.0%	59,900	100.0%	2,200	100.0%
15-24 Years	26,900	28.2%	9,800	29.3%	16,300	27.2%	800	36.4%
25-54 Years	56,100	58.7%	20,200	60.5%	34,700	57.9%	1,200	54.5%
55+ Years	12,500	13.1%	3,400	10.2%	9,000	15.0%	n/a	n/a

Data Source: Statistics Canada Census, Labour Force Survey

Note: Caution on sample size.

Note: n/a signifies a suppressed figure due to insufficient response

More than half the population of Alberta's Aboriginal People living off-reserve were concentrated in the Edmonton and Calgary Economic Regions

Table 8 shows Alberta's Aboriginal People living off-reserve by economic region at the end of 2004. Economic regions are defined by Statistics Canada as a geographical unit composed of several census divisions within a province. Most of Alberta's Aboriginal People living off-reserve were concentrated in the following economic regions: Edmonton (30.8%); Calgary (20.4%); Athabasca-Grande Prairie (22.5%); and Wood Buffalo-Cold Lake (7.0%).

Table 8

Aboriginal People Living Off-Reserve by Economic Region, Alberta, 2004

	All Aboriginal People		North American Indian		Métis		Other	
Economic Region	Population	% of total	Population	% of total	Population	% of total	Population	% of total
Total	**95,500**	**100.0%**	**33,400**	**100.0%**	**59,900**	**100.0%**	**2,200**	**100.0%**
Lethbridge-Medicine Hat	6,800	7.1%	3,300	9.9%	3,600	6.0%	n/a	n/a
Camrose-Drumheller	4,200	4.4%	1,500	4.5%	2,700	4.5%	n/a	n/a
Calgary	19,500	20.4%	7,400	22.2%	11,500	19.2%	700	31.8%
Banff-Jasper-RMH	2,400	2.5%	n/a	n/a	1,900	3.2%	n/a	n/a
Red Deer	3,100	3.2%	1,200	3.6%	3,300	5.5%	n/a	n/a
Edmonton	29,400	30.8%	9,800	29.3%	19,100	31.9%	500	22.7%
Athabasca-Grande Paririe	21,500	22.5%	7,400	22.2%	13,900	23.2%	n/a	n/a
Wood Buffalo-Cold Lake	6,700	7.0%	2,500	7.5%	3,900	6.5%	n/a	n/a

Data Source: Statistics Canada Census, Labour Force Survey

Note: Caution on sample size.

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Back to Highlights

10. Alberta's Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve) Education Levels

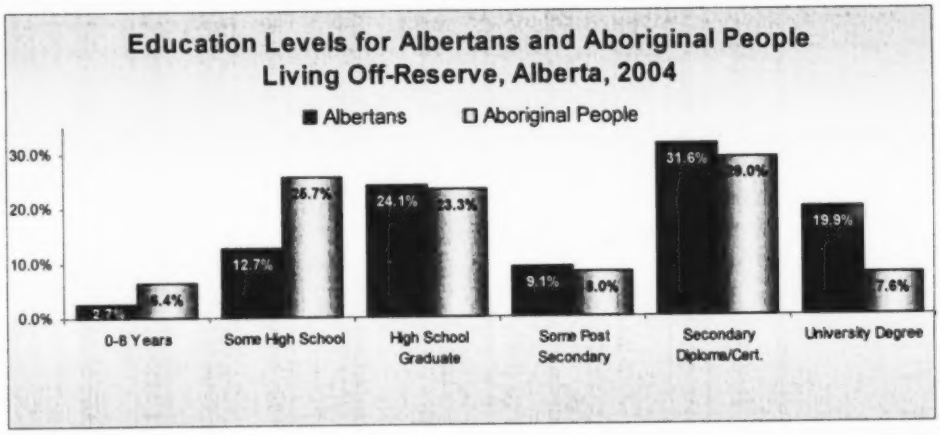
Thirty-seven percent of Alberta's Aboriginal People living off-reserve had graduated post secondary education

Thirty-seven percent of Alberta's Aboriginal People (15 years and older) living-off reserve in 2004 had trade certificates (15.5%), college diplomas (13.5%), or university certificates or degrees (7.6%).

Nearly one-third of Alberta's Aboriginal People living off-reserve had less than high school education

Chart 27 shows the education levels of the working age population of all Albertans and Alberta's Aboriginal People living off-reserve at the end of 2004. Nearly one third or 32.0% of Alberta's Aboriginal People living off-reserve had less than high school education. The proportion of all Albertans with less than high school education was 15.4%.

Chart 27



Back to Highlights

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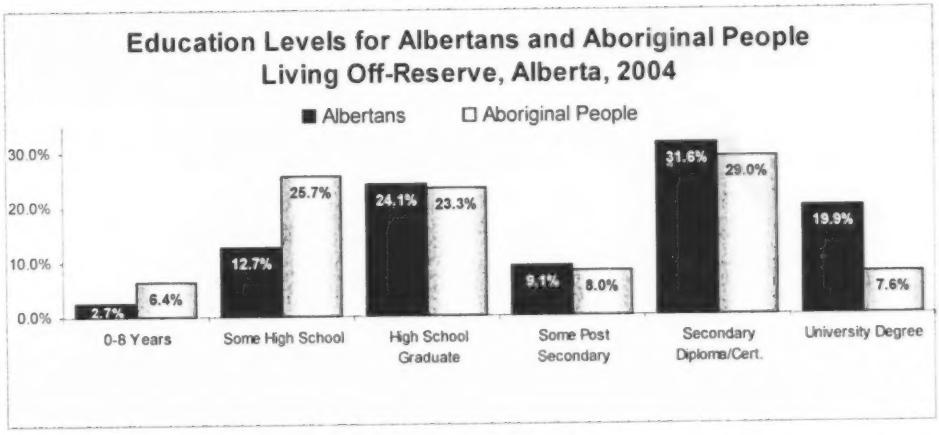


Back to Highlights

11. Alberta's Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve) Employment by Industry

Industries employing more than two-thirds of Alberta's Aboriginal People living off-reserve were in the Services-Producing Sector

Table 8 shows that in 2004, 29.8% of Alberta's Aboriginal People living off-reserve were employed in the Goods-Producing sector, while 70.0% were employed in the Services-Producing sector.

More than half of Alberta's Aboriginal People were employed in the following industries: Construction; Retail or Wholesale Trade; Health Care and Social Assistance; Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas; and Accommodation and Food Services

Nearly two-thirds or 65.5% of Alberta's Aboriginal People in the Services-Producing sector were employed in the following industries: Retail and Wholesale Trade, Health Care and Social Assistance, Accommodation and Food Services, Public Administration, and Transportation and Warehousing.

Most or 93.0% of Alberta's Aboriginal People in the Goods-Producing sector were employed in the following industries: Construction, Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas, and Manufacturing.

Table 9

Employment by Industry for Aboriginal People Living Off-Reserve, Alberta, 2004

	Employment	% of total
Total Employment	**62,100**	**100.0%**
Total: Good-Producing Sector	**18,500**	**29.8%**
Construction	8,300	13.4%
Manufacturing	4,500	7.2%
Forestry, Fishing,Mining and Oil & Gas Extraction	4,400	7.1%
Agriculture,	800	1.3%
Utilities	500	0.8%
Total: Service-Producing Sector	**43,500**	**70.0%**
Retail and Wholesale Trade	8,900	14.3%
Transportation and Warehousing	3,900	6.3%
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	2,200	3.5%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	1,900	3.1%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	3,000	4.8%
Educational Services	4,000	6.4%
Health care and Social Assistance	5,000	8.1%
Information, Culture and Recreation	1,200	1.9%
Accommodation and Food Services	6,000	9.7%
Other Services	2,800	4.5%
Public Administration	4,700	7.6%

Data Source: Statistics Canada Census, Labour Force Survey

Note: Numbers may not add up to 100% due to rounding

Note: Caution on sample size

Back to Highlights

12. Alberta's Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve) Employment by Occupation

More than half of Alberta's Aboriginal People living off-reserve were employed in the following occupations: Sales and Service and Trades, Transportation, and Equipment Operators

Table 9 indicates that over three-quarters or 76.5% of Alberta's Aboriginal People living off-reserve were employed in one of the following occupations: Sales and Service Occupations (29.6%); Trades, Transportation, Equipment Operators and Related Occupations (26.4%); Business, Finance and Administration Occupations (12.9%); and Occupations in Social Sciences, Education, Government and Religion (7.6%).

Table 10

Employment by Occupation for Albertans and Aboriginal People Living Off-Reserve, Alberta, 2004

	Albertans		Aboriginal People	
	Employment	% of total	Employment	% of total
Total Employment	**1,757,900**	**100.0%**	**62,100**	**100.0%**
Management	145,300	8.3%	3,300	5.3%
Business, Finance and Administration	310,700	17.7%	8,000	12.9%
Natural and Applied Sciences and Related	127,000	7.2%	2,600	4.2%
Health	91,300	5.2%	2,200	3.5%
Social Sciences, Education, Gov't and Religion	120,700	6.9%	4,700	7.6%
Art, Culture, Recreation and Sport	40,400	2.3%	500	0.8%
Sales and Services	422,300	24.0%	18,400	29.6%
Trades, Transportation and Equip. Operators	313,400	17.8%	16,400	26.4%
Unique to Primary Industry	117,500	6.7%	4,000	6.4%
Unique to Processing, Manufacturing and Utilities	69,300	3.9%	1,900	3.1%

Data Source: Statistics Canada Census, Labour Force Survey

Note: Caution on sample size

Back to Highlights

13. Alberta's Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve) Participation

Participation rates for Alberta's Aboriginal People living off-reserve was slightly less than that for all Albertans

Chart 28 displays participation rates in the labour force of all Albertans and Alberta's Aboriginal People by gender. In 2004, nearly three-quarters or 71.6% of all Alberta's Aboriginal People (15 years and older) participated in the labour force. Participation rates for both Alberta's males (79.8%) and Alberta's Aboriginal males (78.7%) were higher than participation rates for Alberta's females (67.3%) and Alberta's Aboriginal females (64.7%).

Chart 28

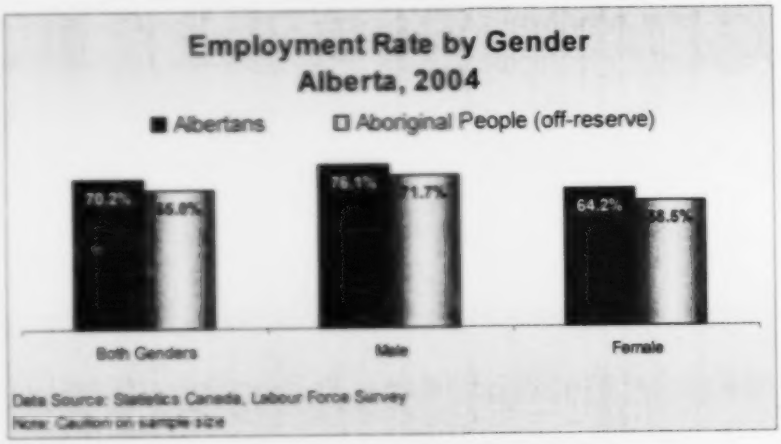
Back to Highlights

14. Alberta's Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve) Employment

Employment rates for Alberta's Aboriginal People were lower than those of all Albertans

Chart 29 displays employment rates for all Albertans and Alberta's Aboriginal People. In 2004, the employment rate for Alberta's Aboriginal People living off-reserve was 65.0%. This was 5.2 percentage points lower than the employment rate of all Albertans.

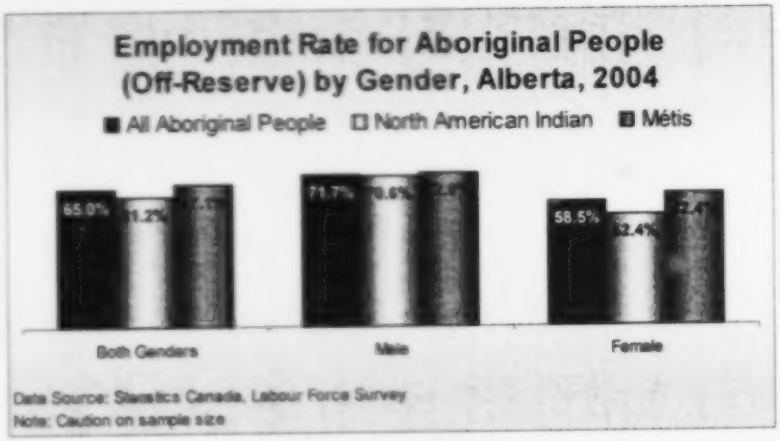
Chart 29



The employment rate for Alberta's Aboriginal People living off-reserve was highest for the Métis population

Chart 30 shows Alberta's Aboriginal People's (Off-Reserve) employment rates by gender in 2004. Métis Aboriginal People had the highest employment rate at 67.1%. Male Aboriginal Albertans had a higher employment rate than their female counterparts, with a 10.5 percentage point difference for all Aboriginal People.

Chart 30



Back to Highlights

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Back to Highlights

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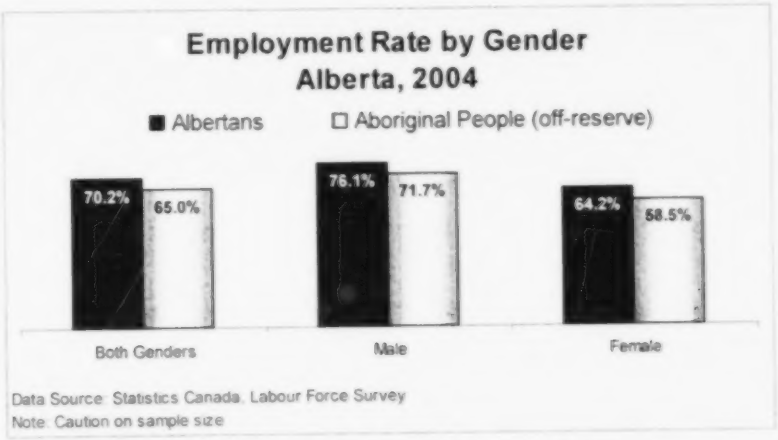

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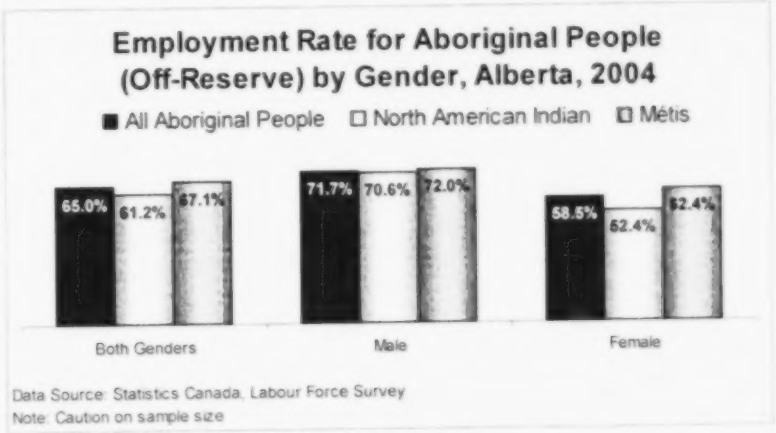

Back to Highlights

15. Alberta's Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve) Unemployment

The unemployment rate for Alberta's Aboriginal People is double the unemployment rate for all Albertans

Chart 31 shows unemployment rates for all Albertans and Alberta's Aboriginal People. The unemployment rate for Alberta's Aboriginal People living off-reserve was 9.2%. The unemployment rate for Alberta's Aboriginal People was 4.6 percentage points higher than the unemployment rate for all Albertans.

Male Aboriginal Albertans had an unemployment rate of 8.8% and male Albertans had an unemployment rate of 4.6%. Likewise, female Aboriginal Albertans had an unemployment rate of 9.7% and female Albertans had an unemployment rate of 4.7%.

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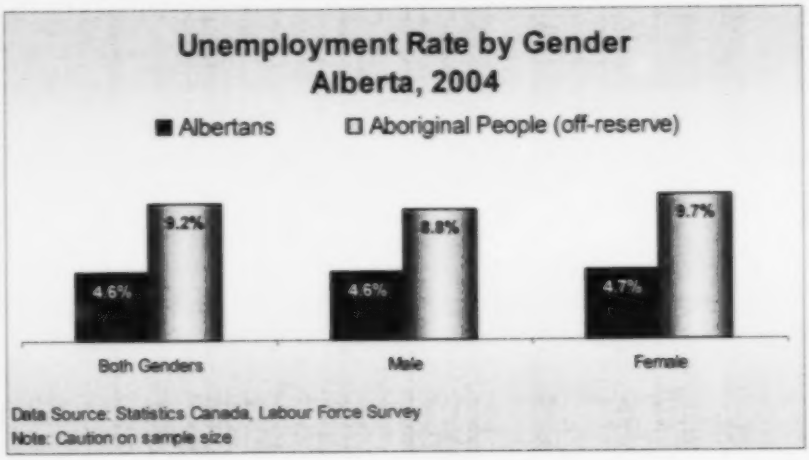
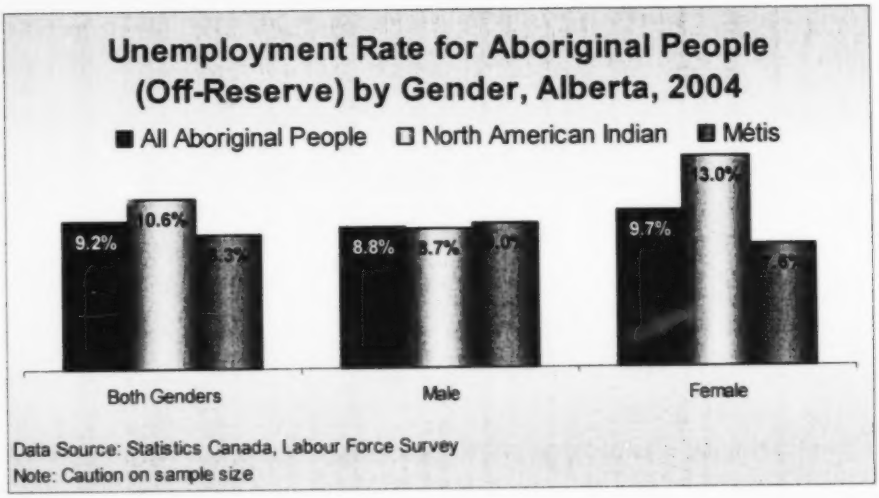


Alberta's North American Indians had higher unemployment rates than Métis Aboriginal People living in Alberta

Chart 32 displays the differences in unemployment rates of Alberta's Aboriginal People living off-reserve in 2004. North American Indians had the highest unemployment rate at 10.6%. This was 2.3 percentage points higher than the unemployment rate of 8.3% for Métis Aboriginal People.

15. Alberta's Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve) Unemployment

Chart 32



Back to Highlights

Additional information about Alberta Aboriginal Labour Force Statistics may be found at: http://www3.gov.ab.ca/hre/lfstats/index.asp

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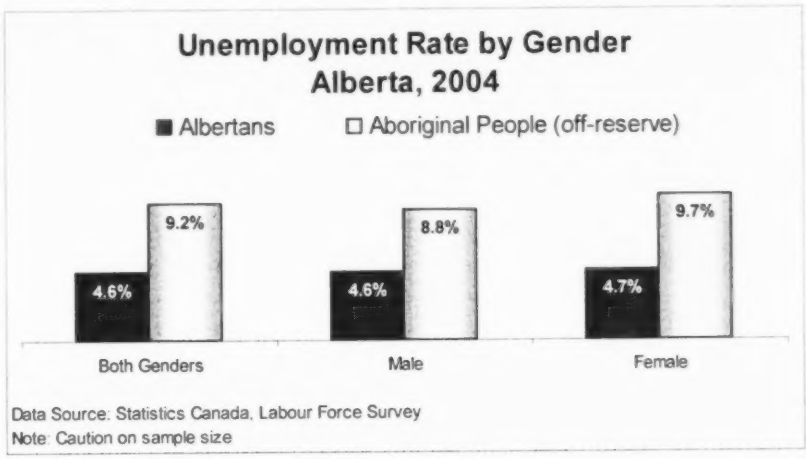

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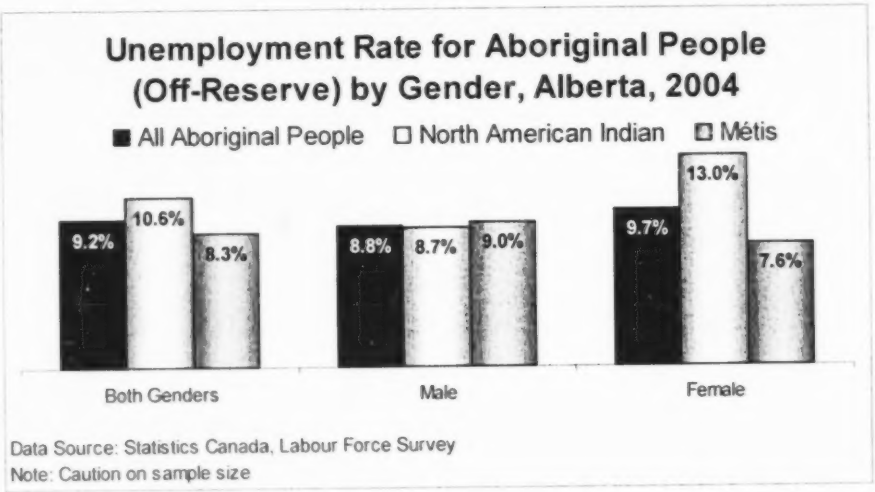

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey
Note: Caution on sample size

Back to Highlights

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